



16 DAYS OF ACTIVISM DAILY TALKING POINTS

Men must step up in the fight against GBVF.

- This year's 16 Days of Activism campaign shifts from awareness to accountability, creating an environment for men to play a greater role in GBVF prevention.
- We appeal to the men of our nation to take a stand and play their part in ending the scourge of violence.
- Men must lead in speaking out and reporting gender-based violence, raising awareness, peer education and in prevention efforts.
- We encourage men to come together to pledge to never rape a woman, lay a hand on a woman and hold one another accountable to their pledge.
- Men can also play a more formative and present role in their families, particularly in raising their sons to be respectful of women.

As society, we must turn our words into action.

- Gender-Based Violence and Femicide is not a women's issue but a societal issue that requires action from all sectors.
- We call on all sectors of society to collaborate with government to create safer communities and protect victims of abuse.
- We call on all institutions to take allegations of GBVF and sexual harassment seriously and investigate them.
- We appeal to victims who feel that their complaints have not been investigated properly to approach Chapter 9 institutions as well as law enforcement agencies.
- Law enforcement agencies, especially police officers have the responsibility to deal decisively with reported incidents of GBVF.

Government is committed to fighting GBV.

- Guided by the National Strategic Plan to Combat Gender-based Violence and Femicide we have made several interventions to fighting GBVF.
- We have instituted far-reaching legislative reform, support to survivors through the provision of evidence kits at police stations and psychosocial services.
- We have increased the number of Thuthuzela and Khuseleka Care Centres for survivors and improved the capacity of our police to deal with crimes of gender-based violence.
- SAPS operates 134 GBV desks at police stations around the country and is in the process of establishing more.
- SAPS is also making progress in reducing the significant backlogs in DNA analysis, which is crucial to securing justice for survivors of sex crimes.
- A number of regional courts have been designated as Sexual Offences Courts in various parts of the country.

- For assistance and counselling on GBVF matters, call the GBV Command Centre on 0800 428 428. Callers can also request a social worker from the Command Centre to contact them by dialling *120*7867# (free) from any cell phone. Report to a local police station or call the toll-free Crime Stop number on 086 00 10111.